



FINE ARTS

The study of the arts is an integral part of a comprehensive Catholic education. St. Joan of Arc provides students the opportunity to receive experiences in all areas of the arts. This includes vocal, instrumental, visual, theatrical, and computer graphics instruction. There are also numerous performances by students throughout the school year. In December, the Christmas Program presents the story of Christ's Nativity along with music by the school Band. The school's Drama Club puts on a play each spring, usually a children's Broadway classic. At monthly Family Liturgies for the parish, the choirs lead the singing for the congregation. The Band and Choirs also sponsor a Fine Arts Night toward the end of the school year to showcase the many talents of St. Joan of Arc's students.



SPORTS

Students in Grades 4-8 may participate in numerous after-school sports groups. For girls, the school has JV and Varsity Soccer, Cheerleading, JV and Varsity Volleyball, Softball, JV and Varsity Basketball, Tennis, Intramural Flag Football, and Cross Country. For boys, the teams are JV and Varsity Basketball, JV and Varsity Soccer, Intramural and Travel Flag Football, Tennis, Baseball, and Cross Country.

EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

St. Joan of Arc has multiple opportunities for students to become involved in extra-curricular activities through participation in the Yearbook, Irish Step Dance, Girl Scouts, Daisies, Brownies, Boy Scouts, Tiger Cubs, Cub Scouts, Chess Club, Drama Club, Book Club, The Edge, Band, Advanced Band, School Choir, Bell Choir, Angel Choir (PK-Grade 1), Cantor Choir, Children's Choir as well as service-oriented clubs including Student Council, Student Aides, Church Lectors, Welcome Team, Stewardship Club, and Altar Servers.

ADDITIONAL PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

St. Joan of Arc offers additional opportunities for activities that appeal to various student interests and developmental needs and offers additional amenities designed to accommodate parents' daily schedules. These include:
 Extended Care Program and Morning Supervision • Daily Hot Lunch Program and After School Snack Bar • Vision, Hearing, and Speech Screening • Scoliosis Testing • School Clinic • Home and School Association • Homeroom Mothers and Fathers • Big Brother, Big Sister • PAWS Program • Erin Go Brew (the school's parent coffee gatherings)

SECURITY

The safety of the school community is of the utmost importance at St. Joan of Arc. For this purpose, the school campus is surrounded by gates, and security cameras are located throughout the campus. Arrival and dismissal times are monitored by staff, and all visitors must be buzzed in after the main gates are locked. Staff members wear their ID badges, and visitors also wear badges after signing in at the school office. The school follows the mandates of the Diocese of Palm Beach in doing background screening for all staff and volunteers. The school conducts regular weather and safety drills. There is also an annual check of the facilities, equipment, and procedures by the diocesan risk management team to further ensure the safety of everyone on campus.



ST. JOAN OF ARC CHURCH

The school is considered a vital ministry of St. Joan of Arc Parish and has been an active part of the church since its founding. The parish priests participate in all of the school's sacramental activities and visit the classrooms at certain times of the year to supplement the students' religious education. The church and school administration work closely together on advancing school goals and improvements. The school and church share sacramental meetings and celebrations. School parents are very active in parish events and comprise large numbers of volunteers in the ministries and programs of the church. This long established interconnectedness of the school and church provides students and their families a sterling example of the importance of living out their Catholic faith in their community.

ST. JOAN OF ARC CATHOLIC SCHOOL

501 SW 3rd Avenue, Boca Raton, Florida 33432

For more details or to schedule a tour, please contact Mrs. Debora Bradley at

561.392.7974 or visit www.stjoan.org

ST. JOAN OF ARC

CATHOLIC SCHOOL



BLUE RIBBON SCHOOL OF ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

*Believe in our faith
 Believe in our children*



OVERVIEW

St. Joan of Arc is an elementary Catholic School operating under the auspices of the Diocese of Palm Beach. The school first opened in 1960 and has since grown to its present size of approximately 550 students in PK-3 to Grade 8. The school is staffed by certified teachers and offers a comprehensive grade school program with instruction in everything from language arts to fine arts. The school is fully accredited by the Florida Catholic Conference, the accrediting agency for every Catholic school in the state of Florida. St. Joan of Arc enjoys an excellent reputation in the Boca Raton community for producing students who are well-prepared for success in high school and who are committed to living out their Catholic faith.

OUR HERITAGE

Since the original staff of four Religious Sisters of Mercy from Dublin, Ireland first began the school, the past fifty-plus years have remained true to the charism of their order and their foundress, Mother Catherine McAuley, providing a superior academic program grounded in Catholic principles. There are four Sisters of Mercy on staff to this day.

US DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

BLUE RIBBON SCHOOL

St. Joan of Arc has been classified as a U.S. Department of Education "No Child Left Behind" (NCLB) Blue Ribbon School. This prestigious award recognizes schools for student academic achievement and performance, and St. Joan of Arc is one of only two Catholic elementary schools in the Diocese of Palm Beach to have received this distinction. The exact criteria for NCLB may be found on the U.S. Department of Education website at www.ed.gov.

CATHOLIC IDENTITY AND SPIRITUALITY



The cornerstone of the education for students at St. Joan of Arc is their faith formation as Catholics. The religious education curriculum is designed to impart traditional Catholic teachings to students, to habituate them in the practice of their faith, and to instill in them an understanding of their responsibility to serve others in the name of Christ.

This formation is effected through daily prayer and religion classes, the teaching of a body of Catholic religious knowledge, sacramental preparation, including readiness for Grade 9 confirmation, a stewardship curriculum and weekly treasure program, required service hours for graduation, class and school-wide masses and prayer services, student and parent retreats for all grades, and school activities for special feast days and church celebrations.

The overall religion curriculum is a rigorous one that encompasses regular elementary content as well as

instruction on the Parables of Jesus, Catholic stewardship, human sexuality, additional Social Justice, Judaism and Islam studies for Grade 7, and a weekly 'Family Scripture Paper' for studying the Gospel message at home. The goal of the school is to teach students what their faith is and to develop their desire to practice it and share it with society.

EARLY CHILDHOOD PROGRAM: PK-3 AND PK-4

St. Joan of Arc believes in a child-centered active learning environment for the young child. Children are led to initiate their own learning experiences with supportive instructors. The staff in PK-3 and PK-4 strive daily to nourish the trust and confidence required for healthy learning experiences. Through daily planning and assessment sessions, teachers create the conditions for a child's active learning and generate strategies to challenge a child's emerging abilities. The goal is to work with parents in order to provide many and varied opportunities for the child to develop spiritually, physically, socially, emotionally, and cognitively as a total person. The school's facility and the PK staff are also DCF-licensed, adhering to the strictest standards of child care in Palm Beach County.



ACADEMIC PROGRAM

St. Joan of Arc provides a comprehensive elementary school education that emphasizes academic excellence and the faith formation of students. The school follows the curriculum of the Diocese of Palm Beach, adhering to its instructional standards, textbook selection lists, and guidelines for weekly time allotments for subject areas. Students are prepared for the most demanding requirements of area high schools. In keeping with the school's mission, religious instruction is given the highest priority. Students receive a body of religious knowledge that transmits traditional Catholic teachings and practices and a habituation for service to others. The core subjects of language arts and mathematics comprise the majority of learning time, with multiple opportunities in all subject areas to learn comprehension, communication, and computation skills. Classes in social studies, science, art, music, computer science, library, Spanish, and physical education complete the curriculum. PK-3 through Grade 5 are self-contained, and Grades 6-8 change classrooms among the twelve homeroom/specialty teachers. Students in Grades 1-5 may attend remediation classes with an individualized reading teacher, and Grades 5-8 have a remedial program for mathematics. The school also participates in the federally-funded Title I Program for students who qualify for these classes. For any students with special learning needs, the school counselor works with the parents in order to accommodate these needs. The school also offers high school credit for Algebra I and Spanish I for eligible eighth graders. St. Joan of Arc administers standardized testing for Grades 2-8 each spring. The current instrument is the Iowa Assessment Test. Students consistently score in the top 20th percentile category in the nation. The school participates in Duke University's Talent Identification Program (TIP), the National Junior Honor Society, the Scripps National Spelling Bee, and The National Geographic Geography Bee.



ST. JOAN OF ARC

CATHOLIC SCHOOL

MISSION St. Joan of Arc School, as part of the parish faith community, commits to building the Catholic identity of its students, to challenging them academically, and to preparing them for lives of service to others.



TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION

St. Joan of Arc has integrated technology throughout the school, at every level of learning and in every classroom. In the PK and Kindergarten classrooms, students use computers during center time and to build language and mathematical skills. Computer literacy classes begin in Grade 1, and students work in the Computer Lab each week, with additional computer classes scheduled for Composition, Spanish language, and Social Science lessons. Other technology components include the use of SmartBoards, IPADS, interactive tables, mechanical responders, individualized remediation via computer software programs, Accelerated Reader for Grades 1-8 in the Media Center, Accelerated Math, and a minimum of five computers in each classroom. The school also uses Edline, an online system where grades and class schedules and assignments are posted. In addition, students may join the Technology Club and the Video Production Club to further pursue their interest in these areas of learning.

